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the Daily Advertiser Office) Boston, is our Agent

for the cities of Boston, New York, Philadelphia and

Baltimore.

Book and Job Printing

PROMPTLY AND NEATLY EXECUTED.

POETRY.

The Upper Crust.

"Oh! What a goodly outside falsehood hath."

The woman who makes the contemptible blunder,

In getting up, please,

To shorten the upper crust more than the under,

Is very unwise.

Not only puerile, meager and mean,

But called in the papers "decidedly queer."

But look through this world, and you'll find that the

Are ever more short

More testy in temper, more situated at supper,

More brief in return.

Besides, in their selfishness and dash,

They often get short of health, credit and cash.

And man of deception is ever a lover,

Whoever he's found;

And life is a book in a fine show cover,

Most splendidly bound.

Each leaf has an ending of gold, but within

It is dark with inscription of folly and sin.

If strangers you meet, at a wedding or party,

Remember your trust,

Your confidence, frank, unexpressed and hearty

On short upper crust.

Or you'll learn that not pastry alone hath the sin,

Of an outside much better than what is within.

You'll find the same spirit pervading all classes,

The high and the mean—

Like a rich cloak it envelopes the masses,

Over ragged rags.

As a spotless face below may horrors enfold,

And gutter-bred looms over detestable fold.

There is counterfeit breeding in full circulation,

More brilliant than gold—

There is counterfeit talent, and false reputation,

Most fair to behold.

And counterfeit wealth, with its glittering dust,

All shewy without, like the rich upper crust.

But give me the friend that is frank, for a wonder,

And trusty though rough—

Whose upper crust proves very much like the under,

And neither are tough;

Let us win what we seek of the graces of art;

But pledge for them never the truth of the heart.

THE STORY TELLER.

FROM THE LADY'S BOOK, FOR JAN. 1849.

AUNT MAGUIRE

CONTINUES HER ACCOUNT OF THE

SEWING SOCIETY.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE WIDOW BEDDOTT PAPERS."

I wish to gracious you could attend one of our

Sewin' Society meetin's. You never see nothin'

to beat 'em, I'll be bound for 't. We've had

now. At the first one, at Squire Birsley's,

was twenty-five present. Miss Birsley had

got some shirts cut out of 'Cap'n Sam's

cloth, and as fast as they come in she set 'em to

work—at least, she gin 'em some work, but there

was so much talkin' to 'em, there was precious

little sewin' done. Their tongues went a good

deal faster'n their fingers did, and the worst one

was, they was all a rummin' at once. There was

an everlastin' sight o' talkin', but it did seem as

if they wouldn't never come to no decision

creation. 'Twa'n't expected we should dew

much at the first meetin', more'n to elect the

managers, and make up our minds how often we

should meet—and I begun to think we shouldn't

dew even that much, there was such a sight o'

discussin' and disputin' about everything. Some

was for meetin' once a week, and some thought

'twas altogether too often. Some was for stayin'

in to tea, and some was opposed to 't. Some

thought 'twould be a good plan to stay and work

evenin's and some was of opinion 'twouldn't pay

bein' as we'd have to burn so many candles and

lamps. There wa'n't nothing said about what

object we'd work for at the first meetin'—thought

we'd leave that till next time.

Well, we talked and talked and talked, and

the upshot on't was, Miss Birsley was appointed

President—Miss Ben Stillman, Miss Dr. Lippincott

They never laid tooth to such bread in all their

lives; the butter was superfine; the cold meat

was delicious; and for the cake, it was a mys-

tory to them how Miss Birsley managed to al-

ways have such first rate cake. Miss Deacon

Peabody declared she'd eat such a hearty sup-

per as she was afeard she should be sick. After

tea, Miss Jo Gipsion invited us to meet at their

house next time, and then we went hum—

While we was in the bed-room a puttin' on our

things, I heard Miss Peabody whisper to Miss

Stillman and say, "Did you ever see anything

to beat that tea in all your born days?" No

"I never did," says Miss

Stillman. "If I can't give 'em a better tea

when they meet to our house, I'll give 'up."

Well, at the next meetin' there was about the

same number present, and we talked up what

we'd dew with the money. The difficulty was

the members couldn't agree upon nothin'—some

wanted to work for this object, and some want-

ed to work for that. Miss Skinner and some o'

the rest thought we'd ought to sew for the mis-

tionaries, but most on 'em opposed it 'cause they

wanted to see what become o' the money. Miss

Stubbles thought 'twould be a good plan to es-

tablish a school for the colored sect—'s'pose the

professor put her up to 't—but nobody else

didn't seem to be in favor on't; and sister Be-

dott, (she attended,) she said she never'd agree

to that, 'twould be money throw'd away, for nig-

gers would be niggers, dew what ye would to el-

evate 'em. Miss Pustick, (she come in and set

a spell with her things on—said she couldn't

stay long, jest dropped in on her way to the Ma-

tarnal Society meetin') she thought we couldn't

dew better'n to give the avails of our labor to

the "Sons o' Temperance." "Sons o' yer

granny," says Liddy Ann Buill, says she, "you

know she and Miss Pustick's a quarrelin'—"

When she spoke up so, Miss Pustick looked aw-

ful mad, and got up to go; when she reached

the door, she turned round and says she, "Per-

haps Miss Buill would rather work for the 'Old

Maids' Consolation Society, that they talk o'

formin'." Good afternoon, ladies!" and off she

cut afore Liddy Ann had time to answer. The

girls all tittered, and Liddy Ann look wonderful

wouldn't. I don't know but she'd a clear-

ed out if Miss Birsley had a smoothed it over

in her cunning way; she laughed, and says she,

"What, Miss Buill, you gals don't mean to help

the old maids, I hope? I say let 'em take care

o' themselves." Liddy Ann grinned and look-

ed quite satisfied.

Well, they talked and talked and talked, just

as they did at the first meetin', to no more pur-

pose neither, only to get more riled up than

they did then. It seemed as if every one had

got a particular pint to carry, and was deter-

mined the rest should yield to 't. I tried a num-

ber o' times to make a proposition I'd thought

on, but there was so many that talked louder and

faster'n what I could, that I couldn't for the life

o' me get nobody to listen to me. At last I

went to Miss Birsley and told her my idee, and

axed her what she thought on't. She said she

liked the notion. "Well, then, you propose it,"

says I, "for I can't git 'em to listen to me if I

try till Doomsday." So she spoke out, and says

she, "Ladies!" but there was such a racket

body didn't hear her. So she tried agin: "Lad-

ies, I say!" but still they didn't pay no atten-

tion. Then she took the tongs and knocked on

the stove as loud as ever she could. "Order!"

she says. They stood talkin' then, and look-

ed round to see what she wanted. "Ladies," says

she, "Miss Maguire has proposed an object to

work for that strikes me as an excellent one—

she thinks we'd better raise enough to repair

the meetin' house, and for my part, I think we

couldn't dew better; the meetin' house is in a

miserable condition; the plasterin's a comin' off

in ever so many places, and the pulpit's a for-

lorn old thing, away up in the air; it's enough

to shake a body's neck to look at the minister,

and brakes like an old egg shell. Mr. Tuttle

says he's afeard to go into it. Don't you

think 'twould be a good plan to tear it down and

build another? Now don't all speak at once—

We never shall dew nothing in creation if we

don't have some sort of order. Miss Skinner

says, 'What's your opinion?'

Well, Miss Skinner was delighted with the

idee, and so was the Grimeses, and the Fosters,

and the Peabodys. Miss Peabody said the Bap-

tists and the Episcopal was all a pintin' at us

for lettin' our house o' worship be in such a

condition. Miss John Brewster said she'd long

thought our meetin' house was a disgrace to the

village; she'd no doubt but what 'twould be an

advantage to the cause o' religion to repair it,

Ann Billins. "I never knowed a widdier yet

but what was as oncesy as a fish out o' water. I

really believe it's nat'ral tew 'em."

"Jest so," says Liddy Ann Buill, "widders

will be widders."

"Not if they can help it," says I. I was sor-

ry as soon as I said it, Sister Bedott lookt so

mad. I tell ye she gin me an awful blowin'-up

when we got hum—said every one in the room

thought I meant her, and she didn't mean to go

to the meetin's no more. I don't know whether

she will or not.

"Well, they'd got hold o' the Widdier Pettibone,

and they didn't let her drop right off; if her

ears didn't burn that afternoon, I'm mistaken.

Some on 'em got so engaged talkin' about her

they stopt sewin' entirely. Bymeby Miss Birs-

ley got out o' patience, and knocked on the stove.

"Order!" says she. When they got still, says

she—When the ladies have got the Widdier

Pettibone sufficiently done up, I'd like to have

'em take hold and dew their shirts." "Law me,"

says old Aunt Betsy Crocker, "they ain't a

deavin' her up; they're a pickin' on her to

pieces." Aunt Betsy ain't no great talker, but

when she does speak she always says something

to the pint. She's a real clever old soul, good

to everybody, dumb critters and all. She was

disappointed when she was young, so she hain't

never got married; lives all alone; nobody in

the house but her and Gruff, her old dog. She

thinks the world o' Gruff. I went in to see her

one evenin' last winter. Gruff was asleep on a

rug behind the stove, and there was a great pan

o' vittals settin' by him. I thought 'twas some-

thing she'd set there to warn, so I says, says I,

"ain't you afeard Gruff'll be pokin' his nose

into yer meat?" "Law me," says she, "that's

there a purpose for him. I always set something

by him when he goes to bed, so he'll find it han-

dly if he happens to wake up hungry in the

night." "My sakes," says I, "I wouldn't take

all that pains for a dog." "Law me!" says she,

"Gruff don't know he's a dog—he thinks he's

folks."

"Well, ladies," says Miss Birsley, "if it's a

possible thing, I'd like to have it decided whether

we shall repair the meetin' house or not. I

think we'd better put it to vote. Them that's

in favor on't will please to signify it by holdin'

up their right hand." Well all o' the members

held up their right hand except Miss Ben

Stillman and Polly Marlar. "Miss Stillman,"

says Miss Birsley, "I see that you and Polly

Marlar didn't hold up yer hands. Don't you

approve of appropriatin' the money for that pur-

pose?"

"Well, I can't say I disapprove on't," says

Miss Stillman, "but I should think we'd better

not be in a hurry about makin' up our minds

what we'll dew with the money."

"What's the use o' waitin'?" says Miss Birs-

ley. "For my part, I think we should go ahead

to work for." "I think so tew," says Miss Still-

man, "but you know, we'd ought to be unani-

mous." "Then why don't you agree with us?"

says Miss Birsley, "that's the way to be unani-

mous."

"I mean," says Miss Stillman says she, "that

we'd ought to wait till there's a full meetin' afore

we vote."

"The land alive!" says Miss Birsley, "I don't

know what you'd call a full meetin' if this ain't

one."

"The fact is," says Polly Marlar, stretchin' her

great mouth from ear to ear and displayin' all her

big teeth—"Jeff says her mouth looks like an

ARRIVAL OF THE EUROPA.

Prince Louis Napoleon elected—revival of trade and commerce—abdication of the Emperor of Austria—affairs on the continent—dreadful starvation in Ireland—the Pope of Rome invited to return.

The steamer Europa arrived at New York on the 31st ult., bringing European dates to the 11th. We copy the following summary, from the telegraphic despatch to the Boston Daily Times.

FRANCE. The election for president came off on the 10th December, according to previous announcement, and terminated on the evening of the 11th, without the slightest disturbance. On the Friday and Saturday previous, a disturbance occurred on the place Marbeuf, on the part of the gaudy nobles, who are enthusiastic supporters of Prince Louis, but it does not seem to have reached more than a street row, although the guards were doubled. The political contest lay, of course, between General Cavaignac and Napoleon. The number of votes tendered for Lamartine, Ledru Rollin, and Raspaille being so comparatively insignificant that they may be left out of the consideration of the result. The election returns of the 12 arrondissements of Paris show the following result:

Prince Louis Napoleon	139,165
General Cavaignac	72,754
Ledru Rollin	22,505
Raspaille	13,005
Lamartine	3,308

It is impossible adequately to describe the effect of the results of the election (which continue to arrive hourly) have produced in the chamber. All parties are literally thunderstruck—the partitions of Bonaparte scarcely less so than those of Cavaignac. A majority was expected indeed—counted on with certainty by all—but none expected such an universal acclamation as that which has burst upon Paris from every quarter of the country. All interest in the presidential election as a contest is over. It has ceased to be a contest.

The only question now is the numerical ratio of the whole population by whose voices Prince Louis will be proclaimed chief of the state. None of the explanations are less than four-fifths and the Deputies—a moderate and impartial organ—of this morning says, that he may probably have six-sevenths of the whole. The danger now is, that in the enthusiasm by which the people are now affected, the cry "Vive l'Empereur" may be seriously raised; and if so, the most sagacious would find it difficult to say what would be the issue. The vote for Ledru Rollin and Raspaille will show the strength of the red republicans and socialists, though we are not of opinion that the strength of that party has been unduly put forth on the occasion.

Lamartine is no likely to poll more than a few enthusiastic admirers. The only fact that would lead us to suspect the possibility of a result favorable to Cavaignac is the bitterness with which the press, opposed to him, continue their revilings and charges against the general and his friends, of using undue influence to control the elections, and trick and falsify the returns. One charge certainly appears to be founded on truth, viz: that the government delayed the mail six hours on Friday night, so as to be enabled to forward the Monteur, containing the speeches of Cavaignac and Dugué in reply to an accusation made against the government to pension the would-be assassins of Louis Philippe in the national gallery. Nothing of the slightest interest had a corollary. The truth is, in the present state of the minds of the representatives, stunned as they are by the results of the election, all serious deliberation is out of the question. The Monteur states that the treasury is at present—and will be at the conclusion of the year—in a more prosperous condition than ever had been anticipated by M. Godehaus, the late minister of finance.

POSTSCRIPT. Paris, Thursday, 10 P. M. Up to this date tranquillity continues. The latest election returns show a majority in favor of Prince Louis Napoleon of 27,000 over all other competitors.

Prince Louis proposes to raise General Cavaignac to the rank of marshal of France.

A partial amnesty is still spoken of as likely to be presented to the chamber, either by General Cavaignac, or the ministry of Prince Louis.

It is understood that this amnesty will not include the prisoners of Vincennes.

The intention of promoting the election of M. Dufaure to the presidency of the French chamber is revived, and will probably be carried into effect.

Marshal Bugeaud made his first appearance in the chamber to-day, and was received in the Salle des Tardus by M. Mole.

The proclamation of the president will probably be made about the 20th inst.

M. Emile de Girardin requested the war department for his father General Girardin, and was refused. He will probably be once more in opposition to the government. He also asked the office of minister of finance for himself, and as it was impossible to grant him this request, there is already a coolness, which in a day or two will probably lead to open rupture.

Marshal Bugeaud is to be commander-in-chief of the army of the Alps; but is to remain at Paris for the present.

The new ministry was formed with the warm approbation of M. Thiers, Mole, and Marshal Bugeaud.

A well-informed Paris paper says:—So far as we can judge from the incomplete returns that arrive to us from the departments, the suffrages were divided into the following proportions:

Louis Napoleon	66 per cent.
General Cavaignac	21 "
Ledru Rollin	6 "
Raspaille	4 "
Lamartine	3 "

The commissioners who have been appointed to examine the votes will have concluded their

labors on Monday next; and that the national assembly will, on Wednesday, proclaim the president of the republic. We shall then, it is hoped, feel really assured of a period of tranquillity and repose.

PRUSSIA. In Prussia there has been a dissolution of the national assembly. In our last number we published the account of the meeting at Brandenburg till the 28th ult. On the 29th a meeting of assembly again took place; but only one hundred and fifty-one members were present. The assembly, therefore, stood adjourned. Simon's motion to call up the substitutes of the absent deputies, caused a large accession of members the 30th, on which day one hundred and ninety-eight were present, and thirteen represented themselves as absent only from indisposition, or business. It was therefore, deemed more prudent to adjourn once more; and on the 1st instant the number present was greatly increased. On that day eighty deputies of the left center, who had arrived from Berlin, entered the hall in a body, and through one of them applied for an adjournment until the Monday following, which was negatived by 145 to 113; the election of a new president was called for; but the newly arrived deputies refused to take any part in it and quitted the assembly en masse.

As they entered they reduced the chamber below the necessary number; and the choice of president could not be proceeded with. M. Simon moved a resolution authorizing the ministry to call up the substitutes of the deputies who had quitted the sitting; 73 voted for and only one against the resolution—but no fewer than 82 declined voting.

The assembly was then adjourned till Thursday, the 7th instant. In the meantime, however, the king, believing that the practical working of the administration was impossible, resolved on a bold step in advance. Finding his constituents stubbornly impracticable, he has dissolved it altogether and requested the nation to accept a charter octroye, as the phrase is, by himself. This charter is in fact, the self-same broad bottomed constitution originally propounded to the assembly, with some emendations, mostly insignificant, the most important of which, is the omission of the proviso which excluded the royal veto in the case of bills which had been three times assented to by the chambers. The country is sick of agitation, and will probably accept the boon, though not without some grumbling at the manner in which it has been bestowed.

The latest advices from Prussia state that there were alarming riots at Menn on the 4th instant. The town being completely in the hands of the populace, during four or five hours great excesses were committed.

AUSTRIA. Abdication of the Emperor in favor of his nephew. On the 27th ult. the President of the Council presented to the Austrian Diet, assembled in Kromau, the programme of the new cabinet. This programme confirms a very explicit profession of faith in favor of the constitutional monarchy.

On the second instant, considerable sensation was created by a proclamation issued by the Emperor, in which he transfers his rights and honors to his nephew. This document is one of the most startling and positive proofs of the increasing influence of liberal principles on the Continent. The young Emperor is favorably spoken of; and, if he but fulfill the hopes held out in his proclamation on entering on his new duties, the people of Austria will have experienced a happy deliverance in getting rid of Ferdinand; and is said, however, that the sentiments expressed in the young emperor's proclamation will be looked on with distrust, as the first act of his majesty was to continue the murders of Blum and Mevasser in office. A decline of nearly two per cent took place in the funds on account of the war is "Especially by the grace of God" having been proclaimed at the heart of the proclamation by the Emperor.

The news of the late Emperor's abdication seems to have produced a favorable impression at Vienna.

The latest news from Austria states that the military exercises for political officers still continue. An ex-lieutenant of the Austrian army has been sentenced by court martial to 12 years' imprisonment in a fortress for having taken part in the late insurrection.

HUNGARY. The news from Hungary is very contradictory and uncertain, but no events of importance seem to have occurred. Transylvania is in a state of the most frightful anarchy, and the Wallachian Germans have embraced the imperial party, while the Croats and Magyars adhere to the Hungarian Diet, and frequent encounters occur between the hostile parties, whereby and much death and property is lost.

The Winerwartung says that the city of Grad, a very strong place on the Maros, near the Hungarian frontier, on the Franzenburg side, and containing a population of 15,000, bombarded on the 10th and 11th for the fifth time. There was not a house left standing uninjured. The Winerwartung enters to say whether the bombardment was made by the imperial troops or the Magyars. The large fortress of Leyka on the Maros in Lusatia, was taken from the Magyars on the 11th.

The Wallachians, after an obstinate resistance, in the Pesth House of Representatives had declared the throne of Hungary vacant, and the house of Hapsburg unworthy to reign. It is said that Kossuth has written to Mr. Style the United States Minister, in order to request him the list named to consent to a three months' armistice with Hungary.

IRELAND. Yesterday, 13th, the grand jury of the city of Dublin returned true bills against Duffy for infamous articles in the Nation, and for letters to O'Brien, urging him to rebellion.

The southern and midland newspapers are filled with heart-rending accounts of death by starvation, extensive evictions of tenantry, and violent outrages, in all their disgusting variety.

ITALY. Rome continued tranquil on the 5th inst. On the eve of that day the deputations sent by the chambers and the municipality to invite the Pope to return to Rome, left that capital for Gaeta. At the sitting of the Chamber of Deputies on the 4th, M. Mamiani having expressed a desire to resign the office conferred to him by the people and the assembly, the Prince of Canino energetically combatted his resolution, and urged him to convolve a constituent assembly, elected by universal suffrage, which would be the sovereign judge of the question at issue between the people and the pope.

The President afterwards read a letter from M. Lantini, resigning the Ministry of Finance. M. Soreni, Minister of Justice had also retired from the Cabinet, and the Portfolio of Finance had devolved on M. Steriini, and that of Justice devolved on M. Mazzarini.

Marshal Raskobly has published an order of the day, dated at Milan, 5th inst., announcing the accession of the Emperor, and calling on his army to show the same devotion that they had hitherto done in support of the monarchy.

LONDON MONEY MARKET, Dec. 15. The accounts from the Continent continue satisfactory. The presidential election in France produced a good effect. The market to-day presents a steady appearance, with but little doing. There is not much change in the value of Government stocks from the closing prices of yesterday, but a decline must be noted. Consols for account 87 1/2 to 87 1/4.

The foreign stock market is once more very quiet.

COLD COMFORT FOR MERCENARY POLITICIANS.

We copy the following remarkably significant article from the New Orleans Delta of the 25th ult., and commend it to the thoughtful perusal of all office seekers whose feet are itching to occupy the shoes of present incumbents.

General Taylor's views are probably better understood down south than they are in these higher latitudes, and we would earnestly recommend all who aspire after the substance of things hoped for, to arm themselves with fortitude to bear their disappointment, should their sanguine expectations prove to be the evidence of things not seen. Should the President set up to his professions of non-partisanship and refuse to set the official galliotine at work for the benefit of political mercenaries, we trust that the whigs will not make themselves ridiculous by exclaiming, "We are tyrannized again!" Nothing could be more candid and explicit than General Taylor's declarations that he would not be a "party President," and his whig adherents must have a strange misapprehension of the meaning of words if they supposed him to mean by that expression, that honest and capable democrats, faithful to the people and the Constitution, should be thrust out of the public service to make room for mere adventurers—electioneering gamblers, who play for the stake of office. Among this class, unless we greatly mistake Gen. Taylor's character, there will be ere long "wailing and gnashing of teeth."

A ROMANTIC INCIDENT.—The coast packets, we understand, are doing a fine business this season, the number of passengers up the river being considerably increased. It is thought that a new boat will have to be put on the Baton Rouge line to supply the great demand of passengers. This upward flow of our population, which began shortly after the 7th November, is a very peculiar feature of the present aspect of affairs in our State. For the benefit of parties interested, we will state that the upward passage Baton Rouge, in our fine packets, is five dollars, while the downward passage is only four dollars; and yet we understand from the clerks of the boats, that the latter charge is more equitable than the former, which may be owing, no doubt, to the following circumstance, which we derive from the highest authority.

Some day last week, after General Taylor's legions to his plantation, several remarkably well-dressed gentlemen were seen walking hurriedly up the hill from the steamboat landing at Baton Rouge, in the direction of the Barracks. A short walk brought them in front of the dark, gloomy line of offices, formerly the guard house of the garrison, which is at present occupied by the Commanding General of the Western Military Division. Without delay they went to the door, the strange gentlemen walked right into the office, where they were courteously received by a plain looking and plainly dressed old gentleman, who arose from an old Kentucky white oak chair, with a cane, and smiling warmly in his hand the Daily Delta, and smiling very benignantly upon the stranger gentlemen.

Turning to a stout built, rather bald, plain and thoughtful looking officer, the elderly gentleman began to introduce to his visitors, Colonel Bliss; then turning to another and younger officer, of a thin, sharp face, keen eye, and soldierly bearing, he begged to make his friends acquainted with Major Eaton; and lastly, an elegantly dressed, handsome, dashing, and rather affected gentleman, in whose dress the military signs were all merged in the prevailing mode, was introduced as Major Garnett.

These ceremonies being over, the elderly gentleman commenced a conversation with the strangers about the weather, the crops, the price of cotton, the state of the foreign market, the choice, the Austrian revolution. It was, however, quite a novelty that the old gentleman seemed cautiously to avoid the abstruse topics of political discussion. At last, our strangers—who appeared desirous of changing the subject of conversation—after beating around the bush for some time, boldly dashed into the political arena in the following style:

"General, we must congratulate you on your glorious triumph in the late election."

"Thank you," quietly responded the old gentleman in the same coat.

"A great victory of the whig party, General," continued the spokesman of the strangers.

"You should say a victory of the people," mildly suggested the elderly gentleman, of the shaggy eyebrows.

This remark seemed rather to puzzle and dampen the manners of the strangers, who began to look around so uneasily that the three gallant companions of the elderly gentleman arose and bowed themselves out of the room. The coast being clear, the strangers moved their chairs closer up to the old gentleman with the bright eye, and seemed to be getting quite cozy. After much hemming and hawing, the more valuable of the strangers commenced:

"General, next to congratulating you upon your great triumph and the victory of the Whigs, of the people, our purpose in coming to see you at present, is to submit to your consideration our application for certain offices in the gift of the President."

"But, bless me," quietly interrupted the old gentleman, "I am not President yet."

"True," responded the stranger, "but you will be on the 4th of March next."

"Had you not better wait until that day comes, and then let us see if there are any deaths or resignations?" politely suggested the gallant old gentleman.

This was a regular poke—a knock down tumbled-over-gone-out-my-eyes interrogatory; and must have been followed by but few other words, for shortly after the strangers were seen in the wharf boat, hallooing out very lustily for the Magnolia, which, being the trade, was very opportunely passing at the time.—[N. Y. True Sun.

OXFORD DEMOCRAT.

"Eti Unusquisque must be preserved."

PARIS, MAINE, JANUARY 9, 1849.

BENEFITS OF LITERATURE.

Mr. Godwin, some years since, wrote an admirable work on *Political Justice*, in which he alluded to some of the advantages of literature, and which should be more generally read. He says few engines can be more powerful, and at the same time more salutary in their tendency, than literature. The human mind is strongly infected by prejudice and mistake; the various opinions prevailing in different countries, and among different classes of men upon the same subject, are almost innumerable; and yet, of all common to the upstart gentility of this country, they dress in the plainest manner; all their garments are made in the most simple manner; they need not be convinced that it is not dress that makes the man!

A celebrated traveler says that while traveling in Europe a few years since, he had the satisfaction of meeting with many of the higher order of the English nobility, and of contrasting their plainness of dress, their simplicity of manners with the ephemeral fops of our own native land; and humiliating enough was the comparison to our native pride. We pretend to be republicans, and endeavor to play the aristocrat, in any instance the collation of evidence upon these points have failed to produce universal conviction, it must be admitted that it has not failed to produce irrefragable argument to support its positions.

If there, indeed, be such a thing as truth, it must inevitably be struck out by the collision of mind with mind. The restless activity of intellect may for a time be fertile in paradox and error; but these will only be discarded, while the truth that occasionally springs up, like sturdy plants, will defy the rigor of season and climate.

In proportion as the reasoner compares his deductions with those of another, the weak places of his argument will be overthrown, and the general judgment, in which his mind was exposed to no sinister influence, will be confirmed. All that is requisite in these discussions is unlimited speculation, a sufficient variety of systems and opinions. While we only dispute about the best way of doing a thing in itself wrong, we shall indeed make but a trifling progress; but, when we are once persuaded that nothing is too venerable, or too sacred, to be brought to the touchstone of critical examination, science will advance with rapid strides. Men, who turn their attention to the boundless fields of inquiry, and the still more who recollect the innumerable errors and copies of mind, are apt to imagine that the labor is without benefit and endless. But one fact must be the case, if truth at least have any real existence. Errors will, during the whole period of their reign, combat each other; prejudices that have passed unperceived for ages, will have their era of detection; but, if in any science he discovered one solitary truth, it cannot be overthrown.

Such are some of the arguments that may be adduced in favor of literature. But, even should we admit them in their full force, and at the same time suppose that truth is the omnipotent artificer by which mind can be infinitely regulated, it would yet by no means sufficiently follow, that literature is alone adequate to all the purposes of human improvement.

Literature, and particularly that literature by which prejudice and imposture is superseded; and the mind is strung to a firmer tone, exists, but only as the portion of a favored few. The multitude, at least, in the present unnatural state of society, cannot partake of its illuminations.

For that purpose, it would be necessary that the general system of policy should become favorable, that every individual should have leisure for reasoning and reflection, and that there should be no species of public institution, which, having falsehood for its basis, should counteract their progress.

Now how stands the case in this, our highly favored land? Have we no public institutions?

WHOM DO YOU IMITATE?

We put the question to you—you who turn up your delicate nose and toss back your sweet scented locks, upon all occasions whenever an honest toiler "comes between the wind and your nobility." You belong to the would-be-aristocracy of republicanism (?) America—to the "higher classes"—to the "good society" of this "pattern republic. Did you ever ask yourself, when putting on all these airs of self-importance, when blustering and swaggering about your respectability, did you ever inquire whom you were imitating? If not, we will inform you without being asked. You are imitating the miserable fools of this country that imitate the footman of an English aristocrat—not the aristocrat himself—but his man, his toady, his servant. It is the servant of the aristocracy who wears a fine black coat, white cravat, and talks large about the "common people" it is he alone who prides himself upon the fineness of the coat he wears and the curl of his mustache; not his master; not the man of high birth and good breeding—Recollect, Mr. Upstart, that you are but a bad imitator at best, of "high life below stairs,"—of the low aristocracy that you see in your own village or city, who are but imitators of the scullion and boot-black of England. What a foolish, swiffling imitator of a boot-black you are, and not a fig the better because you may be in possession of a few dollars which you never earned, and which perhaps, you are too mean and shallow to dispose of generously so as to really benefit yourself or others. What an object of pity—living, rather staying, for himself alone, truly respected by none.

The genuine aristocracy of Europe are kind, respectful, and courteous in their manners, to all; particularly so to those they might deem their inferiors. You never see them put on any airs of mock gentility—there is no haughtiness, no swagger, no pompous mannerism; they dress in the plainest manner; all their garments are made in the most simple manner; they need not be convinced that it is not dress that makes the man!

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Now how stands the case in this, our highly favored land? Have we no public institutions?

Have we no popular seminaries of learning, where scholastic ignorance and antiquated notions are taught, instead of republican knowledge? Or, rather—have we a single higher seminary of learning in the United States, which meets our wants, or is in the least possible degree fitted to the genius of our institutions? Answer ye who can. If you answer in the negative, how are we to remedy the evil? Answer by making our Common Schools what they ought to be, capable of supplying the deficiencies of our higher institutions—which are accessible to but few, and conducted exclusively for the benefit of that few.

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